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Title:

Speech at the opening of P.G. Pak-Poy and Associates (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd. in Kuala Lumpur

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SPEECH BY THE PREMIER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA AT THE OPENING OF P.G.PAK-POY
AND ASSOCIATES (MALAYSIA) SDN. BHD. IN KUALA LUMPUR

6:12:75

It gives me very much pleasure to be present today at the opening of Pak-Poy and Associates (Malaysia) Sdn. Bhd.

Appropriately, this opening is taking place during Adelaide Week in Penang when hundreds of South Australians are enjoying the wonderful hospitality of Malaysia and showing Malaysians something of the lifestyle of Australia.

At the level of personal interaction and exchange, the Week is proving an unprecedented success. The friendships that have been formed and the appreciation of each other's culture that has resulted must mean a great strengthening of ties between our two countries.

It is the mutual desire of the Malaysian government and my government in South Australia that these ties will go beyond merely having fun together and will have benefits that reach far beyond this Week.

We want to see solid achievements in two-way trade, industrial development and joint ventures.

Pak-Poy and Associates, whose headquarters are in Adelaide, are one of the pioneers who will show the way.

I am especially pleased that their venture has attracted the interest of the Malaysian, the South Australian and the Penang State Governments.

All these have an equity in the company through Australasia International Developments Sdn. Bhd. in which PERNAS and the Penang Development Corporation have the major shareholding and South Australian enterprises the minor shareholding.

My association with Mr. Pak-Poy goes back many years. Successful in any terms, he is one of the luminaries of the Australian Chinese community. He heads a firm which is known for its efficiency, thoroughness and vision.

It has been associated with the South Australian government on a number of projects. Outstanding among these are the planning and design of the new city of Monarto which will be built 50 miles outside Adelaide.

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That he has similarly impressed the Malaysian authorities is obvious from the very distinguished gathering here today.

When Mr. Pak-Poy was looking to extend his operations outside Australia, he was quick to see the advantage of setting up an office in Malaysia.

Strong bonds of friendship already existed between the two countries, the Malaysian region showed enormous potential for development, and above all, the nation's leaders are dynamic and growth-oriented.

Pak-Poy Associates won a commission to undertake a feasibility study of the Gebeng Growth Centre in Pahang - a study which will have far-reaching effects for the State and the nation.

Although incorporated only in September this year the company already has about ten officers permanently stationed in Malaysia. Pak-Poy sees one of the main aims of his operation here as one of training local people both on-the-job as well as in Australia, so that they will be able to play a major part in future operations. It is a policy which I regard as essential to successful business relations between our two countries.

The co-operation that Pak-Poy Associates have received in establishing themselves in Malaysia is a feature which is worthy of note. Not only are Malaysians good at enjoying themselves, as we saw in Penang - they work with a single-minded zeal to develop their country and to maintain its position as the foremost in the region.

At both Federal and State level, I have found Ministers, public servants and businessmen whose zest, ability and willingness to help are second to none. These qualities have meant that doing business with Malaysians is a pleasure. From our modest beginnings in Penang, the South Australian government is already exploring business possibilities in Kedah, Perlis, Perak, Kelantan and Pahang. If the past record is anything to go by, much will be quickly achieved.

The combination of Australian skills and Malaysian dynamism is a formula for success. Pak-Poy Associates have already found it and I know that their association with Malaysia will be as happy and fruitful as mine has been.

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